

Message Text

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PAGE 01 TEL AV 02571 251226Z
ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 NEA-10 ISO-00 SYE-00 /026 W
-----040256 251230Z /11

P R 251039Z FEB 78
FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WAASHDC PRIORITY 1484
INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 2571

DEPT FOR A/SY/FO AND NEA/EX; NAIROBI FOR RSS

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ASEC
SUBJ: BODYGUARD FOR AMBASSADOR

1. DURING RECENT VISIT TO TEL AVIV RSS MARVIN GARRETT STRONGLY RECOMMENDED THAT BODYGUARD DETAIL BE ESTABLISHED FOR AMBASSADOR LEWIS. THIS RECOMMENDATION WAS BASED ON RSS'S VIEW OF THREAT LEVEL IN REGION, THE HIGH VISIBILITY OF THE AMBASSADOR, AND FACT THAT OTHER AMERICAN AMBASSADORS IN THE REGION HAVE BODYGUARDS. (FYI. TO DATE THERE HAVE BEEN NO THREATS DIRECTED AT THE AMBASSADOR). THE AMBASSADOR AGREED RELUCTANTLY TO THE RECOMMENDATION AND IT WAS DECIDED THAT WE WOULD OBTAIN A BODYGUARD FROM LOCAL RESOURCES.

2. IN RESPONSE TO OUR INQUIRIES ON THIS SUBJECT, ISRAELI SECURITY (SHIN-BETH) ADVISED THAT THEY HAD OFFICIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE PROTECTION OF DIPLOMATS RESIDING IN ISRAEL BUT DID NOT THINK THAT OUR AMBASSADOR NEEDED A BODYGUARD AT THIS TIME. THEY ADVISED, HOWEVER, THAT THEY WOULD PROVIDE BODYGUARD PROTECTION TO THE AMBASSADOR IF THEY DECIDE AT SOME POINT IN THE FUTURE THERE WAS A NEED FOR IT. SHIN-BETH WAS CONCERNED ABOUT POSSIBLE PUBLIC COMMENT AND REACTION
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WHEN OUR AMBASSADOR SUDDENLY APPEARS IN PUBLIC WITH A BODYGUARD.

3. POST BELIEVES PUBLIC REACTION AND COMMENT ON THIS COULD BE ADEQUATELY HANDLED BY RESPONDING THAT IT IS THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE'S POLICY THAT ALL AMERICAN AMBASSADORS IN THE REGION BE

PROVIDED WITH BODYGUARDS.

4. IN ADDITION TO INQUIRIES WITH SHIN-BETH, RSO HAS ALSO CONTACTED TWO LOCAL COMPANIES THAT HAVE OFFERED TO PROVIDE BODYGUARD SERVICE ON A CONTRACT BASIS. ONE COMPANY HAS ALREADY SUBMITTED A FORMAL PROPOSAL TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL BODYGUARD SERVICE BASED ON AN ESTIMATED TWELVE-HOUR PER DAY SCHEDULE, SEVEN DAYS A WEEK. THEIR PRICE FOR THIS SERVICE IS 35,000 ISRAELI POUNDS PER MONTH. CURRENT EXCHANGE RATE IS APPROX 16 ISRAELI POUNDS TO THE DOLLAR. POST IS PREPARED TO GO FORWARD WITH THE LOCAL CONTRACT BODYGUARD SERVICE AND WILL ADVISE SHIN-BETH OF OUR DECISION IN ADVANCE OF ACTUAL IMPLEMENTATION.

5. REQUEST DEPARTMENT'S CONCURRENCE AND FUNDING FOR THIS PROPOSAL. TOTAL COST OF BODYGUARD SERVICE FOR PERIOD MARCH THRU SEPTEMBER IS APPROX \$15,312. LEWIS

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Message Attributes

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Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 25 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3472187
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BODYGUARD FOR AMBASSADOR
TAGS: ASEC
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/68e421cf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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